IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (original) A method for facilitating the auctioning of a pricing model using a network based system including a server and at least one device connected to the server via a network, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving product listing and pricing information data from multiple suppliers,

developing an initial regression equation for each supplier based on received product listing and price information data, and

combining the initial regression equations for each of the suppliers into a final regression equation for a product line.

2.   (original) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of posting the final regression equation to the suppliers along with required products.

3.   (original) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving purchase contract bids from suppliers.

4.   (canceled)

5.   (currently amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving product listing and pricing information data from multiple suppliers further comprises the step of providing suppliers a matrix showing desired products to be used in developing mathematical models.the mathematical models.

6.   (original) A method according to Claim 5 wherein said step of providing suppliers a matrix further comprises the step of providing a spreadsheet of desired products in which at least one of the suppliers can enter pricing information.

7.   (currently amended) A method according to Claim 2 wherein said step of posting the final regression equation to the supplierstransmitting to the suppliers the final regression equation comprises the step of transmitting to the suppliers a bid sheet.

8.   (original) A system for facilitating the auctioning of purchase contracts for engineered products by implementing pricing models, said system comprising:

at least one device;

a server configured to receive product listing and pricing information data from multiple suppliers, develop an initial regression equation for each supplier utilizing received product listing and price information data, and combine the initial regression equations into a final regression equation for a product line; and

a network connecting said at least one device to said server.

9.   (original) A system according to Claim 8 wherein said server further configured to post the final regression equation along with required products to enable bids from suppliers.

10.   (original) A system according to Claim 8 wherein said server further configured to receive purchase contract bids from suppliers.

11.   (canceled)

12.   (currently amended) A system according to Claim 8 wherein said server further configured to provide suppliers a matrix showing desired products to be used in developing mathematical~~the mathematical~~ models.

13.   (original) A system according to Claim 12 wherein said server further configured to provide a spreadsheet of desired product, the spreadsheet configured to receive pricing information entered by the supplier.

14.   (original) A system according to Claim 9 wherein said server further configured transmit a bid sheet to the at least one device.

15.   (original) A system according to Claim 14 wherein said server further configured to accept coefficients into the initial regression equation from a supplier.

16.   (original) A system according to Claim 8 wherein said network is one of a wide area network, a local area network, an intranet and the Internet.

5

17.   (currently amended) A computer programmed to:

prompt a user to enter product listing and pricing information data from multiple suppliers;

develop an initial regression equation for each supplier based on ~~the~~the ~~received~~ product listing and pricing information~~price information~~ data;

combine the initial regression equations for each of the suppliers into a final regression equation for a product line;

transmit to the suppliers the final regression equation and a list of required products; and

receive purchase contract bids from suppliers.

18.   (canceled)

19.   (currently amended) A computer programmed in accordance with Claim 17 and further programmed to transmit to suppliers a matrix showing desired products to be used in developing mathematical~~the mathematical~~ models.

20.   (original) A computer programmed in accordance with Claim 19 and further programmed to transmit to the suppliers a spreadsheet of desired products into which at least one of the suppliers can enter pricing information.

21.   (currently amended) A computer programmed in accordance with Claim 17 and further~~an further~~ programmed to transmit to the suppliers a bid sheet.

22.   (original) Apparatus comprising:

means for receiving product listing and pricing information from multiple suppliers;

means for developing an initial regression equation for each supplier based on the received product listing and price information;

means for combining the initial regression equations for each of the suppliers into a combined regression equation for a product line; and

means for receiving purchase contract bids from suppliers.

23.   (original) Apparatus in accordance with Claim 22 further comprising means for transmitting to the suppliers the combined regression equation and the products to enable bids from the suppliers.

24.   (original) Apparatus accordance with Claim 22 further comprising:

means for providing suppliers a matrix illustrating desired products to be used in developing mathematical models; and

means for providing a spreadsheet of desired products into which a supplier can enter pricing information.

25.   (new) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of combining the initial regression equations further comprises the step of generating a final regression equation according to

$$COST = 847 + 26.7 HVBIL - 262 LVBIL + 16.3kVA + 9.02(LVBIL) \times (HVBIL)$$
$$- 0.0635(LVBIL) \times (HVBIL)^2 + 0.143(TEMP^2 \times kVA^2)/1,000,000$$
$$- 0.0481(TEMP \times kVA) - 0.000025(TEMP \times kVA^2)$$

for an electrical transformer pricing model.

26.   (new) A system according to Claim 8 wherein said server further configured to generate a final regression equation according to

$$COST = 847 + 26.7 HVBIL - 262 LVBIL + 16.3kVA + 9.02(LVBIL) \times (HVBIL)$$
$$- 0.0635(LVBIL) \times (HVBIL)^2 + 0.143(TEMP^2 \times kVA^2)/1,000,000$$
$$- 0.0481(TEMP \times kVA) - 0.000025(TEMP \times kVA^2)$$

for an electrical transformer pricing model.

27.   (new) A computer programmed in accordance with Claim 17 and further programmed to generate a final regression equation according to

$$COST = 847 + 26.7HVBIL - 262LVBIL + 16.3kVA + 9.02(LVBIL) \times (HVBIL)$$
$$- 0.0635(LVBIL) \times (HVBIL)^2 + 0.143(TEMP^2 \times kVA^2)/1,000,000$$
$$- 0.0481(TEMP \times kVA) - 0.000025(TEMP \times kVA^2)$$

for an electrical transformer pricing model.